

Toll Lanes will cost You even if You don't use them

North Carolina's Auto Rate Bureau has filed for a 13.8% auto insurance rate increase. The #1 reason NC auto insurance rates may increase more than the national average is accidents. The accident rate on the I-77 toll lane construction site is up 120% in one year.

Transportation expert Dr. David Hartgen predicts the accident rate along the Lake Norman I-77 corridor will almost double AFTER the toll lanes are completed due to increasing congestion. The NCDOT's own studies conclude congestion will grow to levels higher than before toll lanes were built. Even if you don't plan to use the toll lanes, congestion and tolls on interstates will divert traffic onto side streets that were not built to handle interstate traffic, adding to the wear and tear of neighborhood streets and making them less safe.

The multi-billion-dollar question is why are we expanding the use of these accident causing toll lanes all over Charlotte (including I-77 to the SC boarder) that will not cure congestion? These lanes require expensive flyover ramps, electronic surveillance, merge lanes that add zero road capacity and costly revenue collections. These extra costs will likely not be recovered by the tolls. Are these toll lanes being built for the benefit of the public, or are they payback to crony political supporters?

You are encouraged to come and listen to highly acclaimed transportation expert Dr. David Hartgen discuss the proposed Charlotte region toll lanes and other transportation issues.

Time/Date: March 16, 2017 at 7:30 a.m.
Place: Skyland Family Restaurant, 4544 South Blvd., Charlotte, NC

You are encouraged to arrive 30 minutes early if you wish to order breakfast.